

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/18933

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G06F 17/60

US CL : 709/223, 226, 227; 705/14, 26

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 709/223, 226, 227; 705/14, 26

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
Microsoft Computer Dictionary

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
Please See Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y, E	US 6,820,061 B2 (POSTREL) 16 November 2004, see the whole reference.	1-18
Y, P	US 6,721,713 B1 (GUHEEN et al) 13 April 2004, see fig.1, col.7 line 45 to col.8 line 63 and col.10 lines 15-60	1-18
A	US 6,055,513 A (KATZ et al) 25 April 2000, see the whole reference.	1-18
A	US 6,529,885 B1 (JOHNSON) 04 March 2003, see the whole reference.	1-18

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T"

later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&"

document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

28 November 2004 (28.11.2004)

Date of mailing of the international search report

21 DEC 2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US

Commissioner for Patents

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US04/18933

Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

WEST, IEEE. EAST

search terms: electronic contract, sharing identity, account online, trading, reward accounts, server, client, Internet, world wide web, business relationships, query network, user profile, online agreements.

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International application No.

PCT/US04/18933

Box IV TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of Item 5 of the first sheet)

NEW ABSTRACT

The method of gathering information within a social network of identities in which people or other identities have social relationships with one another, such as personal or business relationships, and each person has an identity account (101) containing information about that person. The identity accounts reside on identity servers (150A, 150B, 150N) connected by way of a computer network (110A, 110B, 110N). Information, such as address and telephone information, is held in each person's identity account (101). The identity accounts (101) can be queried based on the social relationships to find information. One person can then query a second person's contact information. The second person can then query others known to that second person for the information. Electronic contracts embody agreements between the people in the social network, specify the terms and conditions for using data in the identity accounts, and can limit the information returned to the person making the query.